

▪ **Water Quality Education/Research**

*Description:* This award acknowledges 1) an educational activity or program fostering a better public understanding of water quality, in general, or of a water quality issue, in particular; or 2) a study or on-going research endeavor advancing the scientific understanding of water quality or a new strategy or technology for protecting or restoring water quality.

Criteria	General Focus	Max. Points
Environmental Need	Was a significant and pressing water quality issue addressed? Was an emerging or long-standing water quality issue tackled?	15
Initiative	What was the impetus and driving force for the activity? Was the activity unprecedented or did it follow/expand upon another endeavor?	10
Innovation	Was a unique paradigm or approach employed? Were resources used in a distinctly efficient or creative manner?	15
Scope of Impact	Was a narrow or broad range of water quality benefits sought? Was the geographic focus narrowly or broadly defined? What was accomplished?	15
Immediacy	Were immediate, near future or distant environmental benefits sought?	20
Water Quality Benefits	How has water quality and the environment been helped by the activity?	25
Total		100